

The Harmful Republican Budget:

More of the Same Partisan Messaging From the Past

The House Republican budget unveiled this week continues not only the same harmful policies and budget gimmicks that the American people have rejected time and again, but even recycles the top-line messaging. Here's a look at how obviously similar the [Fiscal Year 2015](#) budget summary is to the [Fiscal Year 2014](#) budget summary:

What's new in Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan's budget proposal this year? Not much according to the introduction:

Fiscal Year 2014

Washington owes the American people a responsible, balanced budget. This is a plan to balance the budget in ten years. It invites President Obama and Senate Democrats to commit to the same common-sense goal. This budget will achieve the following:

Fiscal Year 2015

Washington owes the American people a responsible, balanced budget. This is a plan to balance the budget in ten years and create jobs. This budget will achieve the following:

And the Republican plan to 'Balance the Budget, Grow the Economy?' Almost identical to the message from the previous year:

Fiscal Year 2014

The House Republican budget reduces deficits by \$4.6 trillion over the next ten years. It targets wasteful Washington spending and reforms the drivers of the debt.

This budget stops spending money we don't have. It achieves the common-sense goal of a balanced budget in ten years. A balanced budget will foster a healthier economy and help create jobs.

By tackling the debt, this budget will help grow our economy today and ensure the next generation inherits a stronger, more prosperous America.

Fiscal Year 2015

The House Republican budget cuts spending by \$5.1 trillion over the next ten years. It targets wasteful Washington spending and reforms the drivers of the debt.

This budget stops spending money we don't have. A balanced budget will foster a healthier economy and help create jobs. This will ensure the next generation inherits a stronger, more prosperous America.

When it comes to national security, House Republicans changed a few words, but the proposal remains the same:

Fiscal Year 2014

The first job of the federal government is to secure the safety of its citizens from threats at home and abroad. Whether defeating the terrorists who attacked this country on September 11, 2001, deterring the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, or battling insurgents who would harbor terrorist networks that threaten Americans' lives, the men and women of the United States' military have performed superbly. This budget provides the best equipment, training, and compensation for their continued success. It also keeps faith with the veterans who have served and protected the nation

Fiscal Year 2015

The first job of the federal government is to protect the country from threats at home and abroad. Whether defeating the terrorists who attacked this country on September 11, 2001, deterring the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, or battling insurgents who would harbor terrorist networks, the men and women of the United States' military have performed superbly. This budget rejects the President's cuts to national security. It provides the best equipment, training, and compensation for their continued success. It also keeps faith with the veterans who have served and protected the nation.

Creating jobs and expanding economic opportunity is one of the main priorities of the American people, but the Republican budget has no new ideas, just a recycling of previous points:

Fiscal Year 2014

While not sufficient by themselves, policy reforms at the federal level can help foster an environment that promotes economic growth. This budget seeks to equip Americans with the skills to succeed in a 21st-century economy and to grow that economy through long-overdue tax reform. Both reforms work off the same principle: The American people know their needs better than bureaucrats thousands of miles away.

Fiscal Year 2015

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In the budget proposal section on the safety net, Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan adds an extra sentence, but otherwise copies the same points from fiscal year 2014:

Fiscal Year 2014

This budget applies the lessons of welfare reform to all federal aid programs. It gives states more flexibility to tailor programs to

Fiscal Year 2015

This budget applies the lessons of welfare reform to other federal-aid programs. It gives states more flexibility to tailor programs to

their people's needs. It gives those closest to the people better tools so they can root out waste, fraud, and abuse. Finally, it empowers recipients to get off the aid rolls and back on the payroll. By enlisting states in the fight against poverty, this budget builds a partnership between the federal government and our communities.

their people's needs. It gives those closest to the people better tools so they can root out waste, fraud, and abuse. Finally, it empowers recipients to get off the aid rolls and back on the payroll. By enlisting states in the fight against poverty, this budget builds a partnership between the federal government and our communities. Although this budget does not lay out a full welfare-reform plan, it takes steps toward reforming these programs to encourage work, to increase economic growth and jobs, and to preserve the safety net.

The Republican budget proposal last year was widely criticized for ending the Medicare guarantee. Rather than changing course, this year's summary is exactly the same as last year:

Fiscal Year 2014

This budget protects and strengthens Medicare for current and future generations. It also requires the President and Congress to work together to forge a solution for Social Security. This budget recognizes that the federal government must keep its word to current and future seniors. And to do that, it must reform these programs.

Fiscal Year 2015

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If you wanted new ideas to help American businesses and families succeed, look elsewhere – this year's plan is the same as last year's:

Fiscal Year 2014

The administration's uncontrolled, wasteful spending in combination with an overzealous regulatory agenda has weakened an anemic economy and created barriers to job creation, especially for small businesses. To restore fairness—and vitality—to our economy, this budget ends cronyism; eliminates waste, fraud, and abuse; and returns the federal government to its proper sphere of activity.

Fiscal Year 2015

The administration's uncontrolled, wasteful spending in combination with an overzealous regulatory agenda has weakened an anemic economy and hurt job creation, especially for small businesses. To restore fairness and vitality to our economy, this budget ends cronyism; eliminates waste, fraud, and abuse; and returns the federal government to its proper sphere of activity.

Americans aren't going to be fooled by the same rejected policies from years past, especially when House Republicans didn't even try to change their message.